

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the *Final Office Action* dated May 22, 2006, wherein: (1) claims 1-12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 25-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e); (2) claims 13, 16, 19, 22-24, 43 and 44 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are otherwise allowable; and (3) claims 45-65 were allowed.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-65 are currently pending.

Claims 1, 20, and 35 are currently amended.

Claims 13, 22, and 43 are canceled.

The remaining claims are in original form.

Claims 45-65 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claim 13 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the base claim, claim 1, to include the limitations of claim 13. Claim 13 is cancelled. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is now in allowable form. In addition, dependent claims 2-12 and 14-19 are also in allowable form because they depend from now allowable claim 1.

The Examiner objected to claim 22 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the base claim, claim 20, to include the limitations of claim 22. Claim 22 is cancelled. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 20 is now in allowable form. In addition, dependent claims 21 and 23-34 are also in allowable form because they depend from now allowable claim 20.

The Examiner objected to claim 43 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the base claim, claim 35, to include the limitations of claim 43. Claim 43 is cancelled. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 35 is now in

Appl. No.: 10/698,748
Amdt. dated August 22, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action of May 22, 2006

allowable form. In addition, dependent claims 36-42 and 44 are also in allowable form because they depend from now allowable claim 35.

Claims 45-65 have been allowed. Applicant appreciates the allowance of these claims.

The foregoing amendments have been made based on subject matter the Examiner has indicated is allowable. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in allowable form.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. No new matter is introduced by way of amendment. It is believed that all claims at issue in the *Office Action* dated May 22, 2006 have been fully addressed. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Conley Rose, P.C.'s Deposit Account Number 03-2769 (1030-23401).

Respectfully submitted,



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